

SPORTS

Challenger finals

The women's challenger chess final in Sochi is becoming more and more intriguing. The gap between the leader, Irina Levina from Leningrad, and Lydie Semyonova from Kiev, has shrunk to one point at 3.5-2.5. After five games in the men's match in Vilnius between Gari Kasparov from Baku, and Muskhvishvili Vasily Smyslov, the score was 3.5-1.5.

Draughts match

The fourth round of the Polish draughts championship, between Ilam, Wiesma of Holland and Vaino Virmo of the USSR ended in a draw. The world champion, Wiesma leads by 2.5 to 1.5.

ACCURATE ARROWS

Two world archery records have been set at the all-Union competition in Uzbekistan by Lyudmila Arzhankova, from the Ukrainian team. In the 60 m event she scored 338 points. She beat another world record in the M-1 exercise, where she picked up 1,325 points.

However, she finished second all-round, totalling 2,613 points. This is one point less than Natalya Buluzova, of Moscow, with Zeliniso Rishanova, of Dushanbe. In third place was 2,565 points.

The Namagan shooting range proved tricky for Igor Prokopy, of Lvov. In the 30 m event he repeated the USSR record of 702 points. He also won first place in the M-2 exercise with 2,587 points. Second place was won by Yuri Leontyev, of Cheboksary, with 2,550 points and Vladimir Yevseyev, of Chita, took third with 2,551 points.

Success for Cameroon

The African football cup has moved once again that the sport is making good progress on the continent.

In the final match of the tournament Cameroon beat Nigeria 2-1. Cameroon, who participated in the 1982 world cup in Spain, was considered a strong favourite before the tournament began but had to struggle to win it. In the game against Nigeria they had to spend most of their time in defence and success came to them only through lost counter-attacks.

Algeria placed third.



Those photographs, taken at the Palace of Young Pioneers in Leningrad, where since 1985 an Olympic reserve sports school for young children has been in existence. One of its departments trains 350 young girls, aged from 7 to 18, for rhythmic gymnastics.

Photo by Alexei Dilyakin

Everything to be decided in Oslo

After Pirmin Zurbriggen, of Switzerland, took the men's world Alpine skiing cup, many observers hesitated to predict that his compatriot Erika Hess had as good as secured the female title, with some news agencies like West Germany's DPA even carrying an interview with the "holder" of the "Crystal Globe".

But the Zwiesel stage in West Germany totally confused the picture. Pirat, Hess' main rival Hanni Wenzel of Liechtenstein,

won the special slalom there (the leader came in only sixth and added no points to her standings), and then America's Tamara McKinney won the giant slalom on the next day. Erika Hess, who finished second, and Hanni Wenzel, who came in eighth, held their own, with 247 points, going to the former and 238 to Wenzel. Hess took the small globe for the giant slalom with 115 points.

The special slalom in Oslo will now decide everything.

Anna Kondrashova walks off with silver medal

(Continued from page 1)

winner normally go on to win the world championship. But this time a sensation occurred in the pairs, which has distressed fans of Yelena and Oleg. Having captured the lead after the short programme they failed to keep it and ultimately came second.

Hosts, Barbara Unterhill and Paul Marini, became the world champions. Though they by no

means showed their most complex free programme, they skated in a relaxed manner and with ease—and with much home support—which had, in all likelihood, some impact on the judges.

The noted GDR pair of Sabina Baeza and Tassilo Thierbach came third and Olympic bronze medalists. Larisa Seleznyova and Oleg Makarov, of the USSR, fourth.

European football day

Led Wednesday the top European teams met in the second round of the qualification games in all three cups.

In the European Champions Cup the most goals were scored in the game between Portugal's Benfica and England's Liverpool. Liverpool won 4-1.

Roma, Italy's champions, lost 1-2 in Berlin to a local team, Dynamo, but it qualified on the strength of an earlier 3-0 win. The other semifinalists are Scotland's Dundee United, who beat Austria's Rapid 1-0, and Romania's Dynamo, which scored a similar win over Minsk Dynamo (USSR).

In the Cup Winners Cup Barcelona (Spain) made a surprisingly poor showing, losing 0-3 to England's Manchester United.

Scotland's Aberdeen drew 1-1 with Borussia Dortmund in the first leg of the UEFA Cup. In the UEFA Cup, Spartak failed to compete from the first leg game against the Amsterdam team, losing 1-0, and dropping out.

England provided two highlights: Tottenham drew 2-2 with Austria's Austria Lustenau, and Arsenal beat 1-0.

Spain's Athletic Bilbao defeated 2-0, and Real Madrid defeated 2-0.

Victor M. M.

AMERICANS WANT MONEY IN ADVANCE

Organizers of the Los Angeles Olympics have been criticized by Silvio de Padilla, President of the Brazilian Olympic Committee. Speaking in Rio de Janeiro, he stressed that many actions taken by the Los Angeles Organizing Committee in the United States run contrary to the spirit of the Games, and to the principles of the Olympic Charter.

Among other things, he pointed out that the US Olympic Committee has demanded, five

months before the Games, that the entire Brazilian delegation to stay in Los Angeles. The delegation was only to consist of two members. If it had not been for the government, Brazil would have had to leave the country. The delegation was only to consist of two members. If it had not been for the government, Brazil would have had to leave the country.

Will the Argentinians go to Los Angeles?

Argentina will possibly have to abandon its plans to take part in the Olympic Games in Los Angeles for financial reasons.

A spokesman for the National Junta Federal, Enrique Kalngilao is reported by the Financiere news agency as saying that

shortages of funds are the main reason for the decision.

If these difficulties are resolved in the near future, Argentina will send its athletes to the Games in the USA due to the general

OF INTEREST

A lucky escape

This accident happened to a young man, Alain Pilet of France, who decided to parachute from a height of 300 metres on a parachute in the Grotto d'Azur, not far from Marseilles. Having picked up speed, he jumped with his parachute on a cliff at 120 kilometres per hour. He opened his parachute and was about to splash down, when the wind from the sea blew him against the rocks. Alain escaped with broken legs and arms.



TOWARDS HIGHER POTENTIALS FOR FARMING INDUSTRY

The Party regards its concern for the development of agriculture as both an economic and top priority socio-political task. We proceed from the fact that a highly developed and effectively functioning agro-industrial complex is the necessary prerequisite for further growth in the material well-being of the nation, and for a more efficient national economy as a whole. The Party and the Government have consistently kept an eye on the problems involved in the development of agriculture and related industries. These are what huge investments and material resources are channelled into. This was said by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Konstantin Chernenko, at the address of the opening of the all-Union economic meeting on the agro-industrial complex.

Convened on a decision taken by the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, it was opened in Moscow on March 26, at the Grand Kremlin Palace. Taking part are first secretaries and secretaries of the CPSU central committees of the Union republics, of territorial and regional Party committees, vice-chairmen of the councils of ministers of the Union republics who chair the agro-industrial complex commissions, chairmen of the councils of territory, regional and district agro-industrial associations, scientists, managers and economists.

Having advanced a broad programme for improving the well-being of the Soviet people, the 26th CPSU Congress put in the foreground the task of improving food supplies to the population. It was effectively materialized in the Food Pro-

gramme, now being implemented in the USSR, which forms an important part of the Party's economic strategy at the current stage. The Food Programme will remain central to the current ten-year period, both economically and politically. The main emphasis is being given to more efficient use of potential that has been built up in agriculture and to a full-scale pay back of the resources that have been channelled into the development of the agro-industrial complex.

So the participants in the above meeting in Moscow have gathered to sum up the results already obtained in the implementation of the Food Programme and the related issues of vital importance for the country.

The subject report, "On the tasks of Party, Soviet and economic authorities aimed at raising the most efficiency of agriculture and other branches of the agro-industrial complex" was made by the Member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev, who was warmly greeted by all those present.

Ethiopia desires cooperation and trust

Addis Ababa. The present political situation in the world is causing serious concern to the African states, declared Chairman of the Organization for African Unity (OAU) leader of the Socialist Ethiopia Mengistu Haile Mariam. During his visit to Moscow he stressed that in light of existing conditions the OAU is taking the necessary measures to solve the political problems facing Africa. It calls on the African states to fully accept the national liberation movements on the continent and to lead the struggle for the final eradication of racism and colonialism in Africa.

Talking on the situation in the Horn of Africa, Mengistu Haile Mariam noted that Ethiopia had conducted and will continue to conduct a policy of peace and constructive cooperation

with all the neighbouring states in the name of strengthening mutual understanding and trust. The time has come for all the countries in the region to demonstrate their desire for progress, peace, and co-operation, he emphasized.

At the same time, the Ethiopian leader pointed out that the development of good-neighbourly relations in the Horn of Africa is prevented by the "erroneous position of some governments" and intrigues by the forces of imperialism. Completely ignoring the efforts made for strengthening peace and security in the region, these forces continue to unleash wars, and practice expansionism and aggression. This warring position represents the main reason why lasting peace has not triumphed in this part of Africa.

Nicaraguans on the alert

Managua. The actions of US imperialism have become increasingly more hostile and aggressive. The USA, which has armed Central America with arms and military equipment, is carrying out its intrigues against the people of Nicaragua and El Salvador, including direct invasion of those countries.

This was noted in an address to the people of Nicaragua in Managua by the 3rd session of the Sandinista Assembly of the National Leadership of the Sandinista National Liberation Front. The address points out that the present threatening situation prevailing as a result of increasing US aggressiveness poses a serious danger to the Nicaraguans. It stresses the need to increase vigilance and improve organization of the revolutionary government. The address also stresses the need to carry out the political and economic transformations carried out by the revolutionary government. The elections should demonstrate

the popular support for the country's policy aimed at the defence of Nicaragua's sovereignty and independence.



People's militia are helping the Sandinista People's Army to eliminate bandits and guerrillas and maintain order in the country. Many women and teenagers are among the militia members.

Round the Soviet Union

A YEARLY NATIONWIDE MEDICAL CHECK FOR ITS 272,500,000 POPULATION IS TO BE INSTITUTED IN THE SOVIET UNION, AS A RESULT OF DISCUSSIONS AT THE USSR ACADEMY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES' LATEST SESSION. The country's extensive network of hospitals, health centres, clinics and other establishments, staffed by over a million doctors and some three million paramedical personnel, is an impressive basis for implementing the programme.

AN ELEMENTARY COMPUTER LANGUAGE, TO BE TAUGHT TO SCHOOLCHILDREN MAKING THEIR FIRST CONTACT WITH COMPUTERS, HAS BEEN DEVELOPED AT THE SIBERIAN BRANCH OF THE USSR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES. The new language has been put on the curriculum at a school in Novosibirsk.

BAM CONSTRUCTION WORKERS ARE CUTTING FOUR TUNNELS MORE THAN NECESSARY AS THEY BUILD THIS RAILWAY ACROSS SIBERIA. They are doing it to keep the railway as far away as possible from Lake Balkal, an area of outstanding natural beauty.



School vacations now on

The photo shows a group of Moscow schoolchildren in conversation with popular children's writer Anatoly Alexin, who, together with many of his col-

leagues, is attending the national literature holiday "The Book Week" for children and youth, held for the 40th time during the spring school vacations. As always, they lasted on March 24 and will last a full week.

Scores of thousands of children will go hiking and visiting their friends all over the country. Many children from the Urals, Siberia, Byelorussia, Moldavia, Latvia and Armenia, among them winners of the nationwide children's drawing show-competition "Let Peace Triumph Forever", will arrive in Moscow, while dozens of thousands of youthful Muscovites will go on a trip around the country.

One of the local points of the vacation is the all-Union music week for children and youth opened in Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan. Taking part is a choir and young performers who will also get together with song composers.



Moscow at dawn. A view of the Kaledicheskaya Embankment skyscraper.

FACTS and EVENTS

A critical situation has arisen in Central America due to US actions, stressed Daniel Ortega, member of the national leadership of the Sandinista National Liberation Front and coordinator of the ruling council of the Government of National Reconstruction. The sending of American troops and ground troops to Central America, he noted, leads to an escalation of the danger of direct military intervention by the USA in Nicaragua and El Salvador, and undermines the process of peaceful settlement started on the initiative of the "Conciliators group".

Terrorists of the so-called Mozambican national resistance, financed by South Africa, have committed a new bandit incursion. An armed group of bandits attacked a column of troops in northern Mozambique. Ten Mozambican soldiers were killed as a result of this terrorist act.



A BIG WELCOME FOR BIG GYMNASTICS!

The traditional international tournament for the prize offered by "Moscow News" opens on March 30 in Moscow in the Palace of Sport at the Lenin Central Stadium.

The three-day competition will determine the winners of the chief prizes for the free overall programme and the strongest in the individual events for both men and women. Apart from the prizes of the newspaper and the USSR Gymnastic Federation, there will also be special prizes from the USSR Olympic Committee, V/O Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga, Sport, Iolo and the magazine "World Gymnastics". Preliminary figures show that 27 countries have confirmed

their participation: Bulgaria, Britain, Hungary, the GDR, Denmark, India, Spain, Italy, Canada, the Korean People's Democratic Republic, China, Cuba, Morocco, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, Sao Paulo, Syria, Tunisia, Finland, France, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland, Sweden, Yugoslavia, Japan and the Soviet Union. All to all, some 200 participants, coaches, judges and specialists are expected. The Soviet gymnasts will use the contest as one of the most important stages of preparation for the Olympics and the European junior championship. The teams' leaders are the experienced Yuri Korolyov (the won the newspaper's prize in 1981) and national cup-83 holder. (Continued on page 8)



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ENTERTAINMENT

PROFILES

IGOR OISTRAKH

The first joint performance of outstanding Soviet violinist David Oistrakh and his son Igor was given at Moscow's Sverdlov Club on March 20, 1947. This day became a landmark for the family. After that they performed many times as a duo, the father conducted and played viola and the son played the violin. For 28 years I performed with my father, Igor said. I was the youngest in the family and tried to learn from him, borrowing from his wealth of experience and skill not only in the classroom but also on stage during concerts.

Today Igor Oistrakh is one of the most popular Soviet violinists enjoying enormous world prestige.

Beginning in 1938, following his father's example, apart from playing violin, he also began conducting and playing viola. Quite often when he conducts an orchestra his wife Natalya Zerkalova plays solo. For 23 years she has never parted from him—she is his confidante, accompanist and member of the ensemble—a perceptive and responsive musician.

Natalya Zerkalova and Igor Oistrakh give much consideration to performing more difficult cycles of sonatas by Beethoven, Mozart, Brahms and other composers. For the recording of Beethoven's sonatas they were admitted to honorary membership of the Beethoven Society in Bonn—the birthplace of the composer, and for the best recording of Mozart's works they were awarded the Prize of the Vlasova Mozart Academy in 1961. Their repertoire also includes the works of Soviet composers. They were the first, after David Oistrakh, to play the sonata for



In the photo: Igor Oistrakh and his wife Natalya.

violin and piano by Dmitry Shostakovich. Three pieces by Tikhon Khrennikov—"Dithyrambs", "Intermezzo" and "Dance" were written specially for Igor Oistrakh. His brilliant interpretation of the concerto and the pieces won my heart, says the composer. It was easier, clever, emotional, one could feel inner excitement, sincerity. His technique is surprisingly combined with warmth and cordiality of musical interpretation; the beauty of sound, the rare proportion of thought to the profundity of feelings. All this completely wins the hearts of the audience and no matter where he performs, gives rise to a dialogue between the music and the audience.

Valery, representing the third generation of the Oistrakh family, joined the established an-

semble on August 1, 1978. Now I am the soloist, says Igor Oistrakh. I hope that my son will be able to derive something useful from me and I will be able to share my experience accumulated in 35 years of concert activity. Valery is now in the final year of the Gnessin Musical and Pedagogical Institute, attending the class of Khadise Akhlyamova, the pupil of David Oistrakh. So, you see the continuity of generations devoted to music is not just taking place in our family.

Igor Oistrakh and Natalya Zerkalova are now at the peak of their creative activity and Valery is just beginning his artistic career. No doubt he will continue the illustrious tradition of the Oistrakh family.

Alexandra YEGIAZARIAN

MUSIC IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE

A globe dotting the globe with a flying dove above it—the emblem of the International Music Festival—will soon appear on playbills in Moscow.

This festival, an impressive review of progressive music, is to take place on May 13-24 under the motto "Music for Humanism, for Peace and Friendship Among Nations". It is being held for the second time.

It is clear even now that the scale of the coming festival, and the historical displayed in it will be greater than three years ago, said Tikhon Khrennikov, chairman of the organizing committee. Since it is said that while eleven concerts were given during the first festival, this year there will be no

less than 23 of which will be played by composers from forty countries.

While some of the music for performance was composed several decades ago, the works are more recent. The festival aims to present audiences with a wide panorama of 20th-century music to show how traditions are passed on to new trends appear.

Musical by Soviet composers will be represented on a greater scale. Prominent Soviet composers, instrumentalists and singers, as well as leading orchestras and choruses will be taking part. At the first festival, the program will include musical discussions of problems important to musicians all over the world.

OSTROVSKY IN WEST BERLIN

"The Notes of a Niggard Written by Himself" is the title under which the Schiller Theatre in West Berlin will be playing this season "There is a bit of Fool in Every Wise Man", a comedy by Alexander Ostrovsky (1823-86). The company has invited Georgi Tovstogor, one of the leading Soviet directors who for the past thirty years has headed the Gorky Theatre in Leningrad, to stage the play. Tovstogor interprets even the classics as "modifications on modern times based on historical material".

The 70-year-old director is fond of working with foreign companies, which, he says, allows him to enrich his mastery of stage direction. Nikolai Golov's "Inspector-General", Anton Chekhov's "The Three Sisters", and Vsevolod Vishnevsky's "An Optimistic Tragedy" are among the plays he has helped to produce in Western Europe. Four years ago, he staged "The Idiot", a dramatized version of Fyodor Dostoyevsky's novel, in Hamburg, and before this he did productions of "There is a Bit of Fool in Every Wise Man" in Helsinki and Warsaw.

THE ALL-UNION CONTEST OF BALLET DANCERS



Young ballet dancers compete at the Cherkassky Concert Hall in Moscow. In the photo: Olga Tsygankova and Alina Borovik, from Perm. Photo by Andrei Kopylov

WHAT'S ON!

March 27-30

THEATRES

Kramlin Palace of Congresses (Kramlin). Bolshoi Theatre performances: 28 (mat) — Gladkov, "The Little Prince" (ballet), 29 (eve), 30 (mat) — Khechaturian, "Cipollino" (ballet), 30 (eve) — Roslav, "The Barber of Seville" (opera). Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq.) 28 — Mozart, "Così fan tutte" (opera), 29 — Mussorgsky, "Khovanshchina" (opera), 30 — Molchanov, "Macbeth" (ballet).

Stenislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.) 28 (mat), 30 (mat) — Morozov, "Doctor Doolittle" (ballet), 28 (eve) — Zhukovskaya, "Moscow Behind Us" (opera), 29 (mat) — Tchaikovsky, "Eugene Onegin" (opera), 29 (eve) — "Tchaikovsky, "Riviera" (ballet), 30 (eve) — Rimsky-Korsakov, "May Night" (opera).

Operette Theatre (6 Pushkinskaya St.) 28 (mat and eve) — Double-bill: Casagrande, "Piccolo's Adventures"; Khrennikov, "Children in Our Backyard" (one-act ballets performed by the Stenislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre).

FILMS

A Lucky Break (Mosfilm Studios, USSR).

A tragicomic story about good people, dogged by ill-luck consisting of three acts: "A Victim", "A Lucky Break" and "Gold Fish".

Cinema "Svet" (58, Shosse Entuziastov). Metro. Shosse Entuziastov.

BUSINESS

Trade with Norway on the principles of most favoured nation

Following the establishment of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Norway, which are now 60 years old, an agreement on trade and navigation was signed, outlining the basic principles of trade and economic contacts between the two countries, including the principle of most favoured nation. During the past decades bilateral economic contacts have

made considerable headway. Last year the volume of trade grew by more than 40 per cent compared with 1980 and exceeded 180 million roubles. Further growth is envisaged in the future, also thanks to participation in such major projects of cooperation as the development of oil and gas deposits on the continental shelf in the Barents Sea.

Courtaulds Ltd: 30 years on this country's market

In 1984 the firm Courtaulds Ltd. will mark the 30th anniversary of cooperation with the Soviet Union, Norman S. Wooding, deputy chairman of this British firm, told an MNI correspondent.

In 1953, Norman Wooding recalled, the firm's volume of trade with the USSR was estimated at about 80 million pounds sterling. This figure shows that the Soviet Union has

become one of the company's biggest partners. We supplied seven complete plants for producing yarn and fibre, our exports include viscose, acrylic, polyester fibres, some chemical products and certain packing materials. However, it is not one-way traffic, for a number of years Courtaulds has been importing chemicals, cotton and other products from the USSR.

AGREEMENT PROLONGED

The USSR State Committee for Science and Technology and the Austrian firm of Stollack have renewed an agreement on scientific and technical cooperation originally signed in December 1968 for another five years. This is the third time that the agreement has been prolonged. Stollack was one of the first Western firms to conclude an agreement with the USSR State Committee. It provides for joint work in the automobile, electro-technical and food industries. The two partners engage in wide exchanges of information and of delegations of experts, organize seminars and symposia on various aspects in the field, and also engage in the joint development of new types of vehicles and parts. Over the years of their cooperation specialists from Stollack and Soviet organizations have developed

several new kinds of vehicles and parts and have devised improved processes for manufacturing them. Stollack sold in the Soviet Union two licences for the automobile industry.

The Austrian firm is a long-standing partner of the Soviet Soyuzkhimexport foreign trade association.

Lada cars in Belgium

About 250,000 Soviet cars were sold in Belgium in nearly 20 years by the local joint-stock company Skaldia-Volga. The Lada car has become especially popular there over the past decade. At the 62nd International auto-show, recently held in Brussels, the company and V/O Avtoexport signed contracts for new consignments of cars made at the Volga plant.

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WELCOME TO MOSCOW!

АЭРОФЛОТ

Soviet airlines

'CHRONICLE OF IMMORTALITY'

This is the title of a feature film which recreates the heroic deeds of the Vietnamese people's struggle against the American aggression. Shooting is already underway on this co-production to be made by film makers from Vietnam and the Soviet Union. The film is part of the plan for cooperation between the two countries in the area of cinema for 1984. The plan reflects different aspects of artistic links between Soviet and Vietnamese masters of the screen. It also continues the creative cooperation between makers of documentaries, and develops contacts in the sphere of popular science films.

SNAKES IN THE RING

The only circus in the world with snakes—giant pythons, cobras, aspids and other snakes, performing in the arena, has opened in Gurlan, a village in Uzbekistan, a Central Asian republic.

Each number is more exotic than the next. The spectators follow the dance of the cobras with their hearts in their mouths. Obeying the magic melodies of a flute played by trainer Ferikhad Redzhahov, the reptiles rise up vertically above the arena like candles. Fast-moving ophidians zoom into the air, piercing a paper target and again go into the attack.

The star turn is the performance by a three-metre long python named Shah. The trainer ties this huge snake into a knot which Shah then undoes in a matter of seconds.

Ferikhad's wife, Shirin, assists him in the most complicated numbers and together they juggle with the snakes.

It was curiosity which first attracted the Redzhahovs to snakes: they wanted to see whether these reptiles responded to training. A snake is less responsive to a man's will than, say, lions, tigers and horses, and therefore, there is a greater risk involved in working with them.

'THE ARTIST, WORLD AND PEACE'

Such is the title of an exhibition of works by Muscovite artist Vladimir Kulkak (photo), now to be seen at the Moscow "Zaryadye" cinema. The main themes of the show are love for life, peaceful labour, and the beauty of one's native land. The world is so beautiful and so fragile, says the artist. I try to use my brush to defend the most important of human rights, the right to live on earth. Vladimir Kulkak has displayed his works at eleven exhibitions for the "Moscow Artists for Soviet Peace Fund" as a result of which 60 thousand roubles were contributed to the fund.



Vladimir Kulkak. "Portrait of a Nephew, Patriot".

WITH SOVIET AID

35 years have passed since the signing of an agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between the USSR and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Thanks to direct economic and technical assistance from our country the following projects, among many others, have been built in Korea: the Pyongyang heat and power plant, the worsted wool mill in Hamhung and a modern commercial port in Radja, while the first phases of the Kim Chaek iron and steel plant in Chongchun and of a micro-electric motor plant with total production capacity of one million motors have been put into operation.

All in all, more than 60 industrial enterprises—the backbone of the country's economy—have been built, reconstructed and put into operation with Soviet assistance after signing the agreement, the first in DPRK history.

The Tedongon plant of storage batteries with an annual output of 1.1 million automobile batteries of various capacity and 100,000 plates for stationary storage batteries went into operation in 1982. Since this plant was built on a compensation basis, part of its output goes to the Soviet Union.

Contacts and contracts

© An agreement between the Soviet Union and Romania has been signed at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade on cooperation in production and mutual deliveries of specialized engineering products.

© The USSR mounted a large display at the just-ended annual agricultural fair at Verona. The many visitors showed much interest in the Soviet-made Belarus tractor. During the show V/O Soyuzpromexport signed large contracts for fertilizer deliveries to Italy.

© An intergovernmental agreement on the further development of economic and technical

cooperation between the USSR and Iraq has been signed in Baghdad. The document provides for the Soviet Union to give assistance to Iraq in the building of two major projects—a thermal power station and a hydro-electric complex.

© In the course of implementing the contracts of the All-Union Foreign Trade Association Sudimport, and the Finnish Joint Stock Company Velmet, the Soviet side recently received the live hundredth ship built for the Soviet merchant marine. At present, Velmet supplies this country with lighters, Polar dry cargo vessels, and other types of ships. The company itself buys Soviet machine tools, electric motors, as well as equipment for ships and other uses.

USSR-YUGOSLAVIA: HIGHLIGHTS OF COOPERATION

For the past several years the Soviet Union has been Yugoslavia's biggest trading partner. Soviet-made machine tools and technological equipment are in wide use at Yugoslav plants. Powerful Soviet trucks are popular in Yugoslavia, while the USSR buys equipment for the light and food industries from the latter country, as well as non-ferrous metals, articles made from them and other goods.

Bilateral cooperation in shipbuilding has reached a high level.

The USSR is providing technical assistance in the building

and reconstruction of a number of projects to key branches of Yugoslav industry, for example, power engineering, iron and non-ferrous metallurgy, and petrochemistry. More than 70 such projects have been put into operation and greatly contributed to the solution of Yugoslavia's vital economic problems. In-depth specialization and cooperation in production which play a major role in the promotion of economic cooperation between the two countries, have resulted in the creation of a new branch of industry in Yugoslavia—the production of equipment for atomic power stations.